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necessary. The attack is, in itself, a sufficient declaration. It may be better form to tell a scoundrel that you intend to horsewhip him on such and such a day if he is found at large, and it may be more polite to inform a person that you intend to knock him down before doing so. But the question is one of form rather than substance. Why should people resort to force; why should they not settle their difficulties in law courts of justice? And why should nations which, after all, are merely aggregations of men and women, not resort to courts of arbitration instead of killing and bruising like people bereft of reason? The answer seems to be that nations are not reasonable beings.

It is maintained with some confidence that belligerents have no cause of complaint because they are rapped over the knuckles somewhat sooner than expected; but neutrals have a right to know when they, their citizens and their commerce are to be subjected to the burdens imposed upon neutrals during war. In the interest of neutrals a declaration of war seems highly desirable.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

In the Editorial Comment of the January number (p. 134) the first annual meeting of the American Society of International Law was announced for the nineteenth and twentieth of April.

The following careful and it is hoped satisfactory program has been prepared for a session of two days.

Friday Morning at 10 o'clock.

Address of Welcome.

General Business.

Address by the President of the Society.

Papers and discussion on:

1. Would immunity from capture during war of non-offending private property upon the high seas be in the interest of civilization?
2. Is the trade in contraband of war unneutral and should it be prohibited international and municipal law?

Friday Afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

Continuation of unfinished business.

Papers and discussion on:

1. Transference from municipal courts to an international court of all prize cases.
2. Is the forcible collection of contract debts in the interest of international justice and peace?

Friday Evening at 8 o'clock.

Continuation of unfinished business.

Papers and discussion on:

The rights of foreigners in the United States in case of conflict between federal treaties and state laws.

Saturday Morning at 10 o'clock.

Papers and discussion on:

The second Hague conference and the development of international law as a science.

Saturday Afternoon at 2 o'clock.

The President of the United States will Receive the Members of the Society at the White House.

Saturday Evening at 7 o'clock.

Banquet at the New Willard Hotel.

An account of the meeting will be given in the July number.